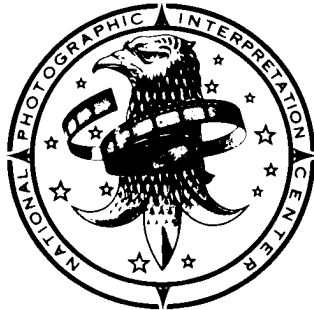


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PHOOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION CENTER

SOVIET DIVERSION BRIGADES



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PIR-010/77

MAY 1977

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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
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USIBONLY-	USIB Departments Only
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SOVIET DIVERSION BRIGADES

1. Photography and collateral sources¹ suggest that each military district in the Soviet Union may have a diversion brigade.



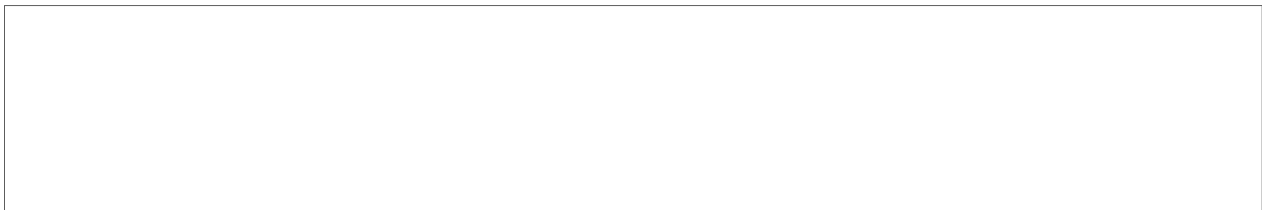
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2. Soviet airborne forces are generally regarded as the elite of the Soviet Army. They are specially selected, politically reliable, highly trained troops that are kept in a constant state of readiness. In addition to the regular airborne troops, there are other special forces with airborne characteristics, known as diversion brigades.¹

3. Diversion brigades may comprise 200 to 500 specially selected men² from regular airborne troops. They would be tasked for commando-type operations deep in enemy territory, special operations for the KGB, reconnaissance, and sabotage. Regular training may be conducted by the GRU.*¹


4. Nine Soviet installations have been identified which have photographic signatures similar to those at the confirmed diversion brigade barracks at Furstenberg (Figure 1 and Table 1). Figure 2 shows Soviet airborne training devices.

Diversion Brigade Barracks




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6. The "recce man's" path obstacle course is seen in many ground force training areas and with some special units, such as diversion brigades. It is designed to teach reconnaissance techniques. The course is 625 meters long and usually contains 24 obstacles, making it the longest Soviet obstacle course. The obstacles simulate three tactical exercises: combat engineer tasks in penetrating the forward edge of the battle area, blowing up water obstacles, and securing objectives in the enemy's rear area.³

7. Chuchkovo Army Barracks AL 1  in the Moscow Military District has a jump-training area consisting of a jump tower and a Knyazev trainer (Figure 4). A "recce man's" path obstacle course is in the barracks area. The army barracks appears to house a battalion-sized unit and lacks special purpose vehicles and equipment.

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8. Ussuriysk Army Barracks AL 4  has harness stocks, a Knyazev trainer, two aircraft mockups, and a jump tower (Figure 5). Additionally, reports⁴ state that paratroopers live in this barracks and they are under the control of the GRU. Again, there is a small unit and a lack of special purpose vehicles.

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*KGB is the Soviet Security and Intelligence Agency, and GRU is the Military Intelligence Agency.



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9. Feodosiya Army Barracks Goncharova AL 1 [] has a "recce man's" path obstacle course, but no jump tower or trainer. It does, however, have a drop zone with a jump target (Figure 6). Parachutes and aircraft have been seen here on occasion. As in all of the previous cases, there is a lack of special purpose vehicles and equipment.

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10. [] Each installation houses a battalion-sized unit, has a jump-training area, and lacks special purpose vehicles and equipment. All of these installations have access to a "recce man's" path, either within the barracks itself or in a nearby training area. Although none of these barracks have all of the signatures [] enough photographic evidence exists to say that each of these units has the same role.

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Table 1. Soviet Diversion Brigades (Items keyed to Figure 1)

Item	Name		Coordinates	Validity	Military District
2	KAZLY-RUDA ARMY BKS AL 1		54-48-12N 023-27-30E	Susp	Baltic
3	MARINA GORKA HQ GDS TK DIV/AB AL 2		53-30-33N 028-10-17E	Poss	Belorussian
4	YASLAV HQ MRD/AB AL 1		50-06-26N 026-50-04E	Poss	Carpathian
5	KIROVOGRAD ARMY BKS CENTRAL AL 1		48-30-55N 032-15-30E	Poss	Kiyev
6	CHUCHKOVO ARMY BKS AL 1		54-14-34N 041-30-20E	Prob	Moscow
7	FEODOSIYA ARMY BKS GONCHAROVA AL 1		45-04-04N 035-11-00E	Poss	Odessa
8	LAGODEKHI ARMY BKS E AL 1		41-49-30N 046-16-50E	Poss	Transcaucasus
9	CHIRCHIK ARMY BKS AL 9		41-27-02N 069-33-20E	Prob	Turkestan
10	USSURIYSK ARMY BKS AL 4		43-49-30N 131-54-50E	Prob	Far East

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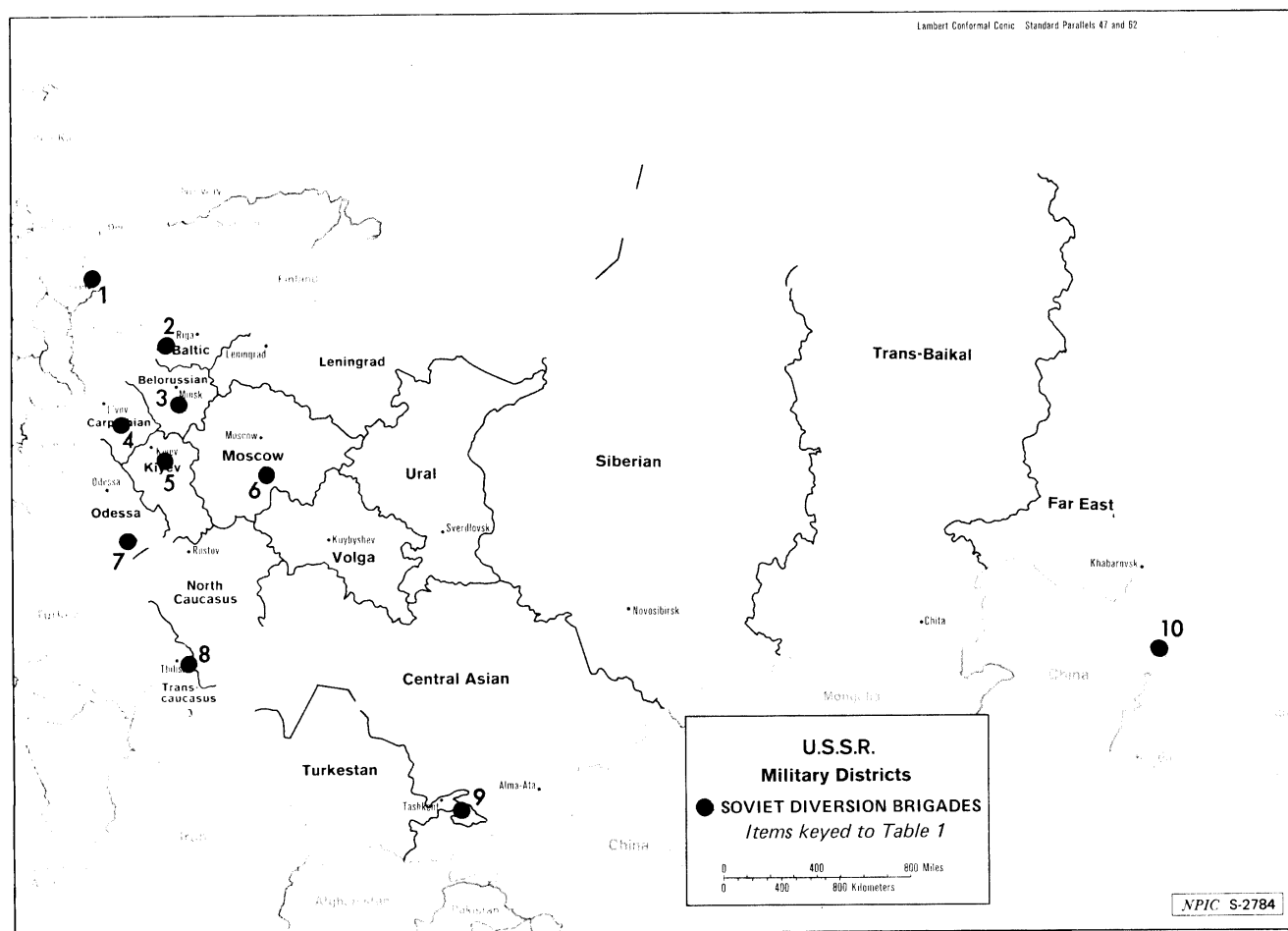
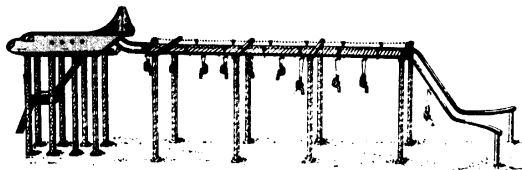
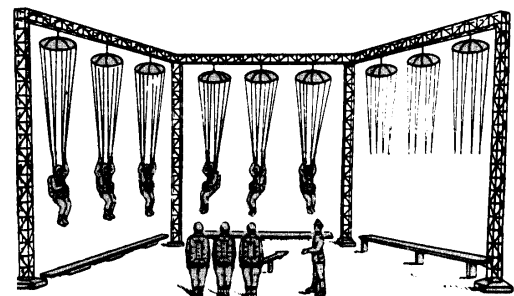


FIGURE 1. LOCATIONS OF SOVIET DIVERSION BRIGADES

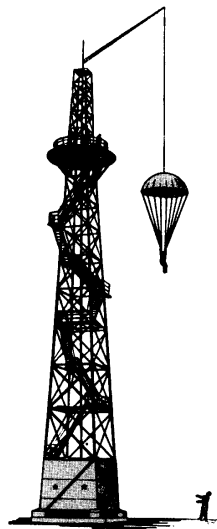
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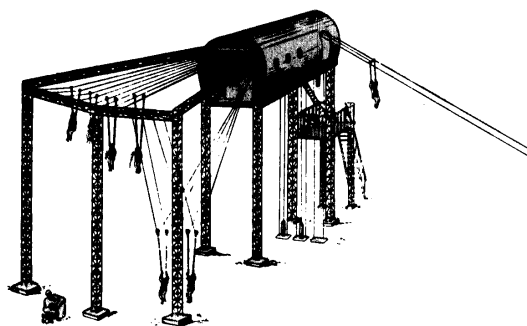
KNYAZEV TRAINER



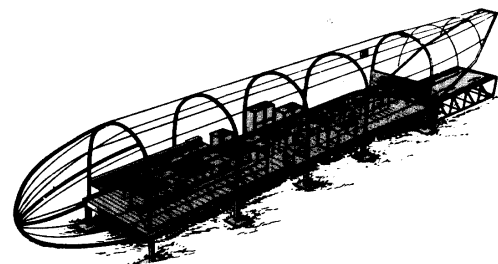
PARACHUTE HARNESS STOCKS



JUMP TOWER



CABLE ZOOM



AIRCRAFT MOCKUP

NPIC S-2785

FIGURE 2. SOVIET AIRBORNE TRAINING DEVICES

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REFERENCES

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MAPS OR CHARTS

- SAC. USATC, Various sheets, scale 1:200,000
- CIA. Sheet 502975 6-76 (542580, CONFIDENTIAL)

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- 2. DIA. DDI-1100-2-75, *Soviet Ground Force Organizational Guide*, Jun 75 (SECRET/[redacted])
- 3. NPIC [redacted] RCA-07/0002/75, *Obstacle Courses Associated with Soviet Rocket Forces, Air Defense, Ground Forces, Naval, and Security Forces*, May 75 (TOP SECRET RUFF [redacted])
- 4. DOD [redacted] *Jssuriysk Military Units*, 13 Aug 75 (CONFIDENTIAL)

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List of Conversion Factors by Classification

UNITS OF LENGTH

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
MILLIMETERS	0.0394	INCHES
CENTIMETERS	0.3937	INCHES
INCHES	25.4000	MILLIMETERS
INCHES	2.5400	CENTIMETERS
FEET	0.3048	METERS
FEET	0.0003	KILOMETERS
YARDS	0.9144	METERS
METERS	3.2808	FEET
METERS	0.0005	MILES(NAUTICAL)
METERS	1.0936	YARDS
KILOMETERS	3280.8400	FEET
KILOMETERS	0.6214	MILES(STATUTE)
KILOMETERS	0.5400	MILES(NAUTICAL)
MILES(STATUTE)	1.6093	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	6076.1154	FEET
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1.8520	KILOMETERS
MILES(NAUTICAL)	1852.0000	METERS

UNITS OF MASS

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
KILOGRAMS	2.2046	POUNDS(AVOIR.)
POUNDS(AVOIR.)	0.4536	KILOGRAMS
SHORT TONS	0.9072	METRIC TONS
METRIC TONS	1.1023	SHORT TONS
METRIC TONS	0.9842	LONG TONS
LONG TONS	1.0160	METRIC TONS

UNITS OF VOLUME

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
LITERS	0.2642	GALLONS
LITERS	0.0063	BARRELS(POL)
LITERS	0.0010	CUBIC METERS
GALLONS	3.7854	LITERS
GALLONS	0.1337	CUBIC FEET
GALLONS	0.0238	BARRELS(POL)
GALLONS	0.0038	CUBIC METERS
BUSHELS	0.0352	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC FEET	7.4805	GALLONS
CUBIC FEET	0.1781	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC FEET	0.0283	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC YARDS	0.7646	CUBIC METERS
BARRELS(POL)	158.9873	LITERS
BARRELS(POL)	42.0000	GALLONS
BARRELS(POL)	5.6146	CUBIC FEET
BARRELS(POL)	0.1590	CUBIC METERS
CUBIC METERS	1000.0000	LITERS
CUBIC METERS	264.1721	GALLONS
CUBIC METERS	35.3147	CUBIC FEET
CUBIC METERS	28.3776	BUSHELS
CUBIC METERS	6.2898	BARRELS(POL)
CUBIC METERS	1.3080	CUBIC YARDS

UNITS OF AREA

<i>IF YOU HAVE</i>	<i>MULTIPLY BY</i>	<i>TO OBTAIN</i>
SQUARE CENTIMETERS	0.1550	SQUARE INCHES
SQUARE INCHES	6.4516	SQUARE CENTIMETERS
SQUARE FEET	0.0929	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE YARDS	0.8361	SQUARE METERS
SQUARE METERS	10.7639	SQUARE FEET
SQUARE METERS	1.1960	SQUARE YARDS
SQUARE METERS	1.0000	CENTARES
SQUARE METERS	0.0002	ACRES
SQUARE METERS	0.0001	HECTARES
ACRES	4046.8564	SQUARE METERS
ACRES	0.4047	HECTARES
HECTARES	10000.0000	SQUARE METERS
HECTARES	2.4711	ACRES

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